



The China Mail

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HONGKONG, FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 1912

一千九百一十二年三月二十九日

PRICE, 8500 Per Month

THORNE'S OLD VAT



SCOTCH WHISKY.

R. THORNE & SONS, L^{td}
GREENOCK & LONDON.

SOLE AGENTS IN HONG KONG, CHINA & HAWAII.
A. S. WATSON & CO. LTD.

POPULAR

ASAHI BEER



OBTAINABLE EVERYWHERE.

SOLE AGENTS:

Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Hongkong, January 3, 1912.

GREAT SHAKESPEAREAN PROJECT.

Mrs Cornwallis-West's Plans.

Mrs George Cornwallis-West is every day approaching nearer to the practical realization of her plans for "Shakespeare's England," which will form the substance of the Earl's Court Exhibition this summer. Seen at her offices in Whitehall House she expressed herself as being most delighted and encouraged by the support and interest she is receiving for the big enterprise that she has promoted and organized. "It is really remarkable how strong a hold the preparations seem to have taken upon the public mind," she said, as she pointed to a huge pile of letters that represented the harvest of one postal delivery.

"The loan exhibition that is to form one of the special features promises to be of really immense value and interest," she continued. "Lord Pembroke has promised me the use of a really priceless collection of his 'treasures' of the Elizabethan period, among them being a suit of armour worn by that celebrated constable of France, Anne de Montmorency, who was one of the heroes of the sixteenth century. It is a gorgeous example of a coat of mail. Another suit of armor, to be lent by Lord Pembroke, belonged to Louis de Bourbon, Duc de Montpensier, and is dated 1513.

"People talk about 'Exhibition tourism' being a feature of the Earl's Court Exhibition," she said. "I don't know how his impression has been abroad, but I have never seen any one who has not been to the Earl's Court, when the season is at its height, there is to be a great festival, and as far as possible a reconstruction of a tournament, with a Queen of Beauty (Lady Ouzon) and jousts and various dances and sports of the period. But this will be held on one day only. The Earl's Court, however, is to be a permanent feature, and it is impossible to arrange in accordance with my general scheme. The Earl's Court will be used for this one-day festival, and we hope to make it a very great representative social function.

"Another important thing is that the Earl's Court, which is to be a permanent feature, will be used for this one-day festival, and we hope to make it a very great representative social function. The Earl's Court, which is to be a permanent feature, will be used for this one-day festival, and we hope to make it a very great representative social function.

Business Notices.

MOTOR BOATS.

Fast Launches and Tugs.

Light Draft Steamers.

CONSTRUCTIONAL WORK AND REPAIRS.

W. S. BAILEY & Co., Ltd.

TELEGRAM

Received on 11. 11. 11. from LONDON

'We beg to inform you ROYAL WARRANT AWARDED
our Company for Milk



TRADE MARK

CONDENSED MILK.

MILKMAID

STERILIZED NATURAL MILK.

EVAPORATED CREAM.

On Sale at All Stores.

HONGKONG, CANTON, MACAO

AND

WEST RIVER STEAMERS.

JOINT SERVICE OF

THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.
AND THE CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

HONGKONG-CANTON LINE.

WEEK-END SERVICE.

Commencing on 30th Instant and until further notice a Week-end Service will be arranged. The s.s. 'HEUNGSHAN' will leave Hongkong at 10 P.M. on SATURDAY, 30th Instant for Canton and the s.s. 'HONAM' will depart from Canton at 4 P.M. on SUNDAY, 31st Instant.

HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

S.S. 'SUI TAI' Tons 1651. S.S. 'SUI AN' Tons 1651.

HONGKONG TO MACAO.

Week days at 8 A.M. & 2 P.M. from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf.
Sunday, at 9 A.M. & 12.30 P.M. from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf.
MACAO TO HONGKONG.
Week days at 7.30 A.M. and 2 P.M. Sundays, at 7.50 A.M. and 5 P.M.

EXCURSION TO MACAO.

SUNDAY, 31st MARCH.

The Company's Steamship 'SUI AN', will depart from the Company's WING LOK STREET WHARF at 9 A.M. Departure from Macao at 5 P.M.
N.B.—The Company will also run the steamer from Macao on Sunday leaving at 7.30 A.M. and from Hongkong at 12.30 P.M. from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf.
This steamer connects with the excursion steamer returning from Macao at 5 P.M.

FARES AS USUAL.

Further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the Company.

CANTON-MACAO LINE.

S.S. 'HOL-SANG' 457 Tons.

Departures from Macao to Canton on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at 9 P.M.
Departures from Canton to Macao on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 4.30 P.M.

JOINT SERVICE OF

HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD., AND THE INDIA-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

CANTON-WUCHOW LINE.

S.S. 'SAINAM' 168 Tons, and S.S. 'NANNING' 588 Tons.

One of the above steamers leaves Canton for Wuchow every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at about 8 A.M., and the other leaves Wuchow for Canton on the same days at 8.30 A.M. Round trips take about 5 days. Passengers can return to Hongkong or vice versa by the Company's direct steamers 'LINTAN' and 'BANUI'. These vessels have superior Cabin accommodation and are lighted throughout by electricity. Electric Fan in each Cabin.

Booking Office open daily (Sunday excepted) 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.
Further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the
HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.
HOTEL MANSION (First Floor),
Opposite the Bank of China.

CHEN KWONG & CO., LD.

GENERAL IMPORT &
EXPORT.

CANTON'S LARGE
WHOLESALE & RETAIL
STORE.

FURNITURE, Draperies, Groceries, Boots and Shoes, Meats and Poultry, Lacquerware, Crockery Ware, Toys, Stationery, Wine and Spirits, Foreign Clothes for gentlemen made to order by our own tailors. Large assortment of Chinese silk and foreign goods of every description. All goods sold at reasonable prices. Chinese and English spoken. Delivery free of charge.

SINGON & CO.

ESTABLISHED 1850

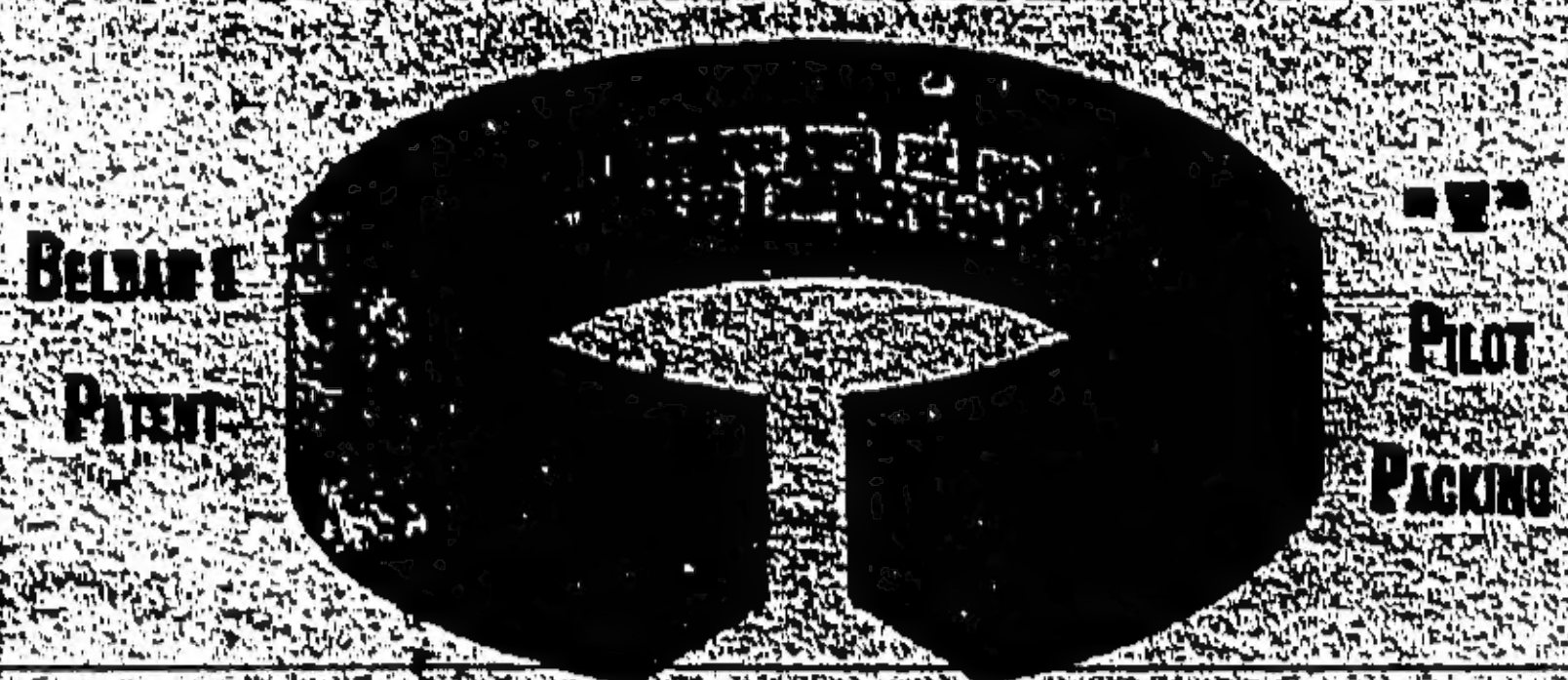
IRON, STEEL, METAL AND HARDWARE MERCHANTS. Wholesale and Retail Importers of Iron and Foundry Goods. General Ship-repairs and engineering. Also, agents for the following:—
(1) 'HONGKONG' Steamships
(2) 'INDIA-CHINA' Steamships
(3) 'SINGON' Steamships
Hongkong, September 4, 1907.

THE GRAND CARLTON HOTEL

—An Ideal Family Hotel—
FIRST CLASS IN EVERY RESPECT. EXCELLENT COOKING. MODERN EQUIPMENT. Noted for its First Class Chinese and International Cuisine.

Business Notices.

SOLE AGENTS IN HONG KONG FOR
BELDAN'S PATENT PACKINGS, JOINTINGS,
ASBESTOS AND RUBBER GOODS



THE EASTERN ASBESTOS COMPANY,
Office and Showroom: 4, QUEEN'S BUILDINGS, CHATER ROAD,
Telephone: 1111. HONG KONG.

'NESTOR' Sanitary Fluid,

RELIABLE DISINFECTANT.

Two Table Spoonful to a Gallon of Water for Washing Floors, etc.
Is Most Useful for the Destruction of Fleas.

1 Tea Spoonful 50 Cents.

PER GALLON TIN \$2.00.

VICTORIA DISPENSARY.

MASSEY'S COMMERCIAL MAP & DIRECTORY.

NOW COMPILING

To Advertisers and Residents:
HEADS OF BUSINESS HOUSES,
PROFESSIONAL MEN,
SECRETAIRES OF CLUBS,
MANAGERS OF HOTELS,
PRINCIPALS AND MATRONS OF HOSPITALS,
and ALL RESIDENTS are requested to send in full particulars.

NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE NUMBER

CABLE ADDRESS

For Free Insertion, To: K. A. MASSEY,
1141
Hongkong, February 12, 1912.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

UNRIVALLED FOR COMFORT AND CUISINE.
THOROUGHLY UP TO DATE WITH EVERY MODERN LUXURY.
A LA CARTE GRILL ROOM.

190 J. H. TAGGART, Manager.

PEAK HOTEL.

ADAMANTLY SITUATED AT VICTORIA GAP.
Adjoining the Tramway Terminus, 1,400 feet above Sea Level.
OPEN to the South, with a Summer and protected from the North-east Winds in Winter. Commanding a magnificent view of Hongkong, the harbour and adjacent islands for forty miles.

A FIRST-CLASS FAMILY, RESIDENTIAL AND TOURISTS' HOTEL.

Terms—From \$5 per day. Telephone Add: 'Peaceful'.
Town Office 4, Des Voeux Road.

Hongkong, February 8, 1908.

GRAND HOTEL.

NO. 5, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

A FIRST-CLASS AND UP-TO-DATE HOTEL.

PERMANENTLY UNDER EUROPEAN MANAGEMENT. Situated in the most central position. Large and airy rooms, luxuriously furnished. Electric Light and Fans throughout. Sumptuous arrangements of the latest pattern.

CUISINE UNDER EUROPEAN SUPERVISION.
Ladies' Afternoon Tea. Morning and Evening Refreshments. Special 'Families' or 'Appointed to the Manager'.

TELEPHONE 1142. HONGKONG.

ASTOR HOUSE HOTEL.

QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

PERMANENTLY UNDER EUROPEAN MANAGEMENT. Situated in the most central position. Large and airy rooms, luxuriously furnished. Electric Light and Fans throughout. Sumptuous arrangements of the latest pattern. CUISINE UNDER EUROPEAN SUPERVISION. Ladies' Afternoon Tea. Morning and Evening Refreshments. Special 'Families' or 'Appointed to the Manager'.

TELEPHONE 1142. HONGKONG.

THE GRAND CARLTON HOTEL

—An Ideal Family Hotel—
FIRST CLASS IN EVERY RESPECT. EXCELLENT COOKING. MODERN EQUIPMENT. Noted for its First Class Chinese and International Cuisine.

Business Notices.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LD

PORTLAND CEMENT

in Casks of 575 lbs. net.

In Bags of 250 lbs. net.

Shewan, Tomes & Co.,

GENERAL MANAGERS

FAIRALL & CO.

ARE SHOWING

New Dress Linens in all Shades.
French Muslins, Embroideries and Laces.

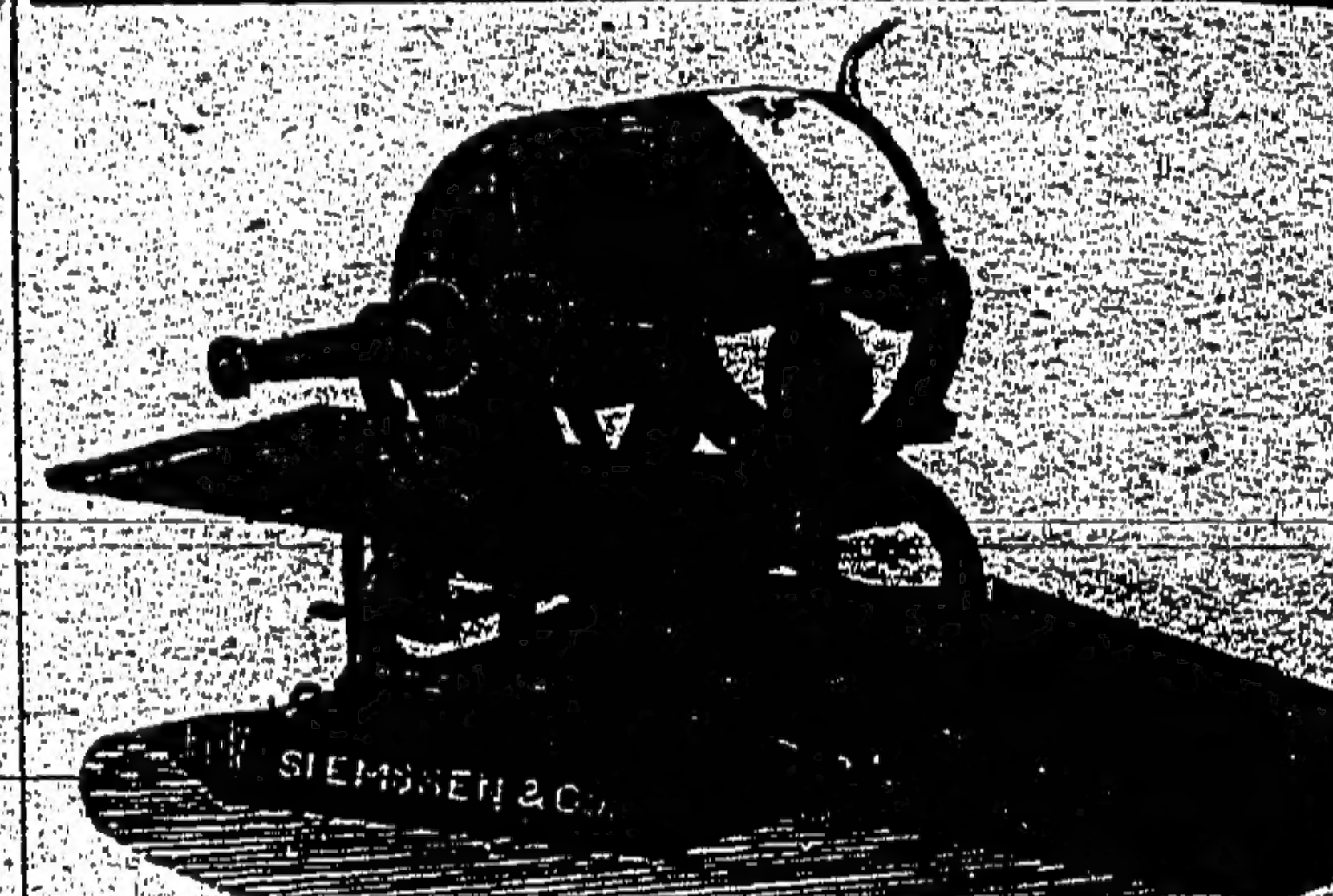
A GOOD ASSORTMENT OF

'READY TO WEAR' HATS.

Peter Pan Collars, Silk and Lisle Gloves,
Ladies' Shoes, etc.

2 FEDDER STREET.

Telephone 644.



ELLAMS "B. 19" ROTARY DUPLICATOR.

Has achieved a success unequalled by any other Rotary-Duplicator. This is due to simplicity of working and the excellence of fitting of the parts. It has caused a complete revolution in Duplicating, and the production of perfect copies by the Rotary Machine is now a certainty.

From a well written original any boy can make thousands of copies on any paper, and each one will be perfect.

There is absolutely nothing to go out of order, and the apparatus is always ready for use.

There is a mechanical device which allows the copy to be made in any position on the paper.

The pressure-roller is regulated by a simple lever, and the arrangement is so made that it is impossible for the operator to turn difficulty with his work.

The printing cylinder is geared so that one turn of the handle makes a copy.

A most important advantage ELLAMS "B. 19" possesses is that the ink never dries and runs all over the Duplicator as in other machines.

"The ink never dries on the rollers, and copies can be made on any kind of paper. Moreover, this ink does not stain, the hands in any way."

There is no peculiar or complicated fastening of the stencil sheet to the Duplicator. The ELLAMS "B. 19" Duplicator is so absolutely simple that it requires no experience whatever to produce perfect copies from it—there is no calculating or measuring of parts.

The Machine is fitted with an automatic Copy counter recording instantly the total number of copies taken.

We stock the following kinds of this Duplicator:

1. For duplicating typewritten documents. Price \$100.

2. For duplicating book type and handwritten documents. Price \$115.

3. For duplicating both type and handwritten documents with self-feeding attachment. Price \$120.

Complete with all supplies ready for immediate use.

Considering the excellent workmanship of the apparatus, the prices are very reasonable and compare most favourably with any Duplicator on the market.

We guarantee that the Machine will give complete satisfaction.

Siemssen & Co.

(Machinery Dept.)

HONGKONG AND CANTON.



A FINE RECORD KUPPER PILSENER BEER

Over 30 Years in the Field.

CALBECK MACGREGOR & CO.

Intimations.

G. FALCONER & CO., LTD.,
WATCH-MAKERS, JEWELLERS AND OPTICIANS.

GOLD WATCH BRACELETS.
BROOCHES, RINGS AND PENDANTS

GOLD AND PLATINUM SETTINGS.

Inspection Invited.

HOTEL MANSIONS: OPPOSITE NEW POST OFFICE.

WING KEE & CO.,

Nos. 47, 48 and 49, CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL
SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAILMAKERS, PROVISION MERCHANTS, COAL,
MERCHANTS, &c., &c., OF FIFTY YEARS STANDING
SHIP CAPTAINS ARE REQUESTED TO GIVE US A TRIAL
FRANCISCO TSE YAT, General Manager.

Hongkong, August 12, 1908.

MEE CHEUNG & CO.,
ART PHOTOGRAPHER, ICE HOUSE LANE

SPECIALIST IN ENLARGING AND BROMIDE WORK.
Select Views of Hongkong and South China.
Special Department for Developing and Printing for Amateurs.
CAMERAS FOR HIRE.

WING ON CO.,

TAILORS AND OUTFITTERS. EXPORT AND IMPORT MERCHANTS.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED NEW SHIPMENTS OF
Drapery, Grocery, Ironmongery, Crockery, Glass and
China Ware, Furniture, Watches & Clocks.
The Cheapness and quality of their Goods have no equal.
108-213, DES VOUX ROAD CENTRAL.
107 & 108, CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL. (Trans pass the Door)
Telephone 189.

Hongkong, August 15, 1910.

J. ULLMANN & CO.

CORNER OF FLOWER STREET.

Jewellers, Watchmakers and Opticians.

CHINESE AND JADE JEWELLERY.

SOUVENIR SPOONS

A SPECIALITY.

WHITE ANTS.

AVENARIUS CARBOLINEUM

THE BEST

WOOD PRESERVATIVE.

30 YEARS' SUCCESS

THE ONLY EFFECTIVE AND

LASTING PROTECTION

AGAINST

WHITE ANTS.

GOVERNMENTS AND OTHER TESTIMONIALS

SOLE AGENTS:

MELCHERS & CO.

DINNEFORD'S
MAGNESIA
The Physician's
Cure for Constipation,
Rheumatic Gout
and Gravel.
Safest and most
Effective Remedy
for Regular Use.
The Universal Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach, Headache,
Heartburn, Indigestion, Sour Eructations, Biliary Affections.

ENO'S
HEALTH-GIVING
FRUIT
REFRESHING
SALT
INVIGORATING

Intimations.

MITSU BISHI GOSHI KWAISHA
(MITSU BISHI CO.)

COAL DEPARTMENT.

SOLE PROPRIETORS OF TAKA-
SIMA, GOH MUTARE, YO-
SHINOTANI, KOJO, KAKADA,
KAMAKURA, SAGO, SHINNEW
and KAMITAKADA Cellaries.

AGENTS for KISHIDAKE & SAKITO
COALS.

HEAD OFFICE: TOKYO.

BRANCH OFFICES:—

Nagasaki, Moji, Karatsu,
Wakamatsu, Kobe, Osaka,
Shanghai, Hongkong, Hankow

TEL. ADDRESS for above: IWASAKI
Codes:—A1, ABO 5th Ed., Western Union.

AGENCIES:

YOKOHAMA: M. Asada, Esq.

CHINKIANG: Messrs Gearing &
Co.

MANILA: Messrs Macondray &
Co.

SINGAPORE: Messrs Borneo Co
Ltd.

For particulars, apply to

Y. SHIBUYA,

Manager,
No. 2, PADDER STREET,
HONGKONG.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO.,
LIMITED.

THE TWENTY-THIRD ORDINARY
ANNUAL MEETING OF SHARE-
HOLDERS in the Company will be held in
the Office of the General Managers, St.
George's Building, Victoria, Hongkong, on
SATURDAY, the 30th day of March, 1912,
11.30 o'clock A.M., for the purpose of
receiving a Statement of Accounts and the
Report of the General Managers for the
year ending 31st December, 1911, Deciding
a Dividend and electing a Consulting
Committee and Auditors.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS OF THE COM-
pany will be CLOSED from THURS-
DAY, the 21st day of March, 1912 until
SATURDAY, the 30th day of March, 1912,
both days inclusive.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, March 13, 1912.

MONDAY, APRIL 1st, 1912.

SPECIAL SPRING SHOW

OF

MILLINERY, BLOUSES, ROBES,

ORNAMENTS, &c.,

The very Latest Designs.

INSPECTION INVITED.

M. GAINS,

PRINCE'S BUILDINGS,

3, Ice House Street.

Hongkong, March 23, 1912.

TUESDAY,
April 2nd,
at 5.30 p.m.

ST. JOHN'S
CATHEDRAL.

Hongkong, March 25, 1912.

THE HONGKONG AND MANILA

YUEN SHENG EXCHANGE

TRADING CO., LTD.

(In Liquidation).

THE CREDITORS of the above-named
Company, whether large or small, are
particularly requested to attend a MEET-
ING to be held on TUESDAY, the 2nd
day of April, 1912, at 4 o'clock P.M., at the
Company's Office, No. 25, (2nd floor),
Des Vaux Road Central, Hongkong.

BUSINESS: To consider a proposal put
forward by the majority of the
creditors to accept 75 per cent in
full satisfaction of all claims against
the said Company.

LAU CHU PAI,
Official Liquidator.

Hongkong, March 27, 1912.

PICNIC PARTIES.

LAUNCH FOR HIRE.

THE Harbour, "KING EDWARD"

Launch can be hired

for PICNIC PARTIES on the Hour

of Day.

For terms apply to the Manager

at the Harbour.

Hongkong, March 1912.

THEATRE

HONGKONG.

MAURICE E. BAYMANN PRESENTS THE NEW

Bandmann Opera Co.

Principal Artists from the Leading London Theatres

TO-NIGHT! For the first time in Hongkong. Robert Courtneidge's Latest London Success

'THE MOUSME'

Now Crowding the Shaftesbury Theatre, London.

SATURDAY, March 30th.

THE BALKAN PRINCESS

The Great London and New York Success.

MONDAY, April 1st.

THE QUAKER GIRL

George Edwards' Great Adelphi Theatre, London, Success.

TUESDAY, April 2nd.

THE MOUSME

The One and Only

THE MERRY WIDOW

For the first time in Hongkong.

THURSDAY, April 4th.

THE CHOCOLATE SOLDIER

The Great Opera Bouffe

SATURDAY, April 6th.

THE KING'S BRIDE

The New Charming Musical Comedy

MONDAY & TUESDAY, April 8th & 9th.

For the first time in Hongkong.

The present Rage of London.

THE GREAT MUSICAL PLAY

THE COUNT OF LUXEMBOURG

From Daly's Theatre, London.

WEDNESDAY, April 10th.

THE RUNAWAY GIRL

The Famous Gaiety Musical Comedy

Book Seats at MOUTRIE & CO.

Doors open at 8.30 P.M.

Hongkong, March 23, 1912.

PRICES: \$3.50, \$2 & \$1.

Commence at 9.15 P.M.

413

FRENCH NAVAL REFORMS.

Speed and Economy.

A correspondent writes to the *Birmingham Daily Post*: M. Delcasse's statement

on the work that has been done in the way

of naval reform since he was placed at the

head of the Marine Department is luminous

and instructive. His idea of Ministerial

responsibility is to share it with Parlia-

ment. The Chambers at set intervals are

given an opportunity to approve by their

votes the various steps taken to re-establish

the efficiency and strength of the naval

defences of the country. First and fore-

most may be placed the progress made in

speed and economy in shipbuilding. It

was long the complaint that ships took

longer to build, and cost more, in

France than in any other country. The

six Dantons, for example, that were

completed last year took five years to build

and fit out. They were of 18,300 tons, and

the naval programme required that they

should be followed by a squadron of six

trois-declats of 24,000 tons, two of which—the

Jean Bart and the Courbet—were laid

down at the beginning of 1911. These

were launched after ten months and two

weeks on the stocks, a remarkable saving

of time, seeing that the Dantons, although

smaller types, were on the stocks for

eighteen months. They were constructed

at the same dockyards of Breast and Lorient,

by the same workmen; so that the result

can only be attributed to M. Delcasse's

energy, and to his determination that plans

shall not be altered whilst construction is

going on.

His aim is the three years' limit for the

building and fitting-out of a first-class

ironclad, and the Arsenal chiefs know what

is before them. By Act of Parliament,

private industry shares with the State's

arsenals the programme for the next eight

years. The arsenals have the Jean Bart

and the Courbet, but the next two, the

France and the Paris, will be built in

private yards. The contractors have

pledged themselves to the three years'

limit. To use a familiar expression, M.

Delcasse has his eye on them, and if they

are not up to time, they will lose future

contracts. On these contracts alone the

Minister was so sharp about the terms that

he reduced the tenders by 6,844,000 francs

for each ship, or a total saving to the country

of nearly half a million sterling.

Three ironclads of 24,000 tons, to be

armed with the new gun of 340 millimetres,

will be laid down next May. Two of them

are for Breast and Toulon this time, for it

will be the turn of the State arsenals; the

third, which will be by private contract, is

to replace the ill-fated Liberté. At the

same time, Cherbourg, Rochefort, and

Toulon will be set to work on nine new

submarines. Finally, seventeen submarines

and thirteen destroyers, now being com-

pleted, will be ready for service before the

year is out.

SEA GUYS AND POWERS.

The number of big guns that should be

in stock, their size and their quality, is

carefully defined by the Regulations. There

had been great neglect in this respect, and

it has been one of M. Delcasse's chief pre-

occupations to bring the reserve artillery

up to full strength. We learn from him

that he has succeeded so far in stocking

enormous quantities of half the regulation

number. Much was being done, and by

next year the reserve artillery would be up

to the level. Parliament would be asked

for the necessary supplies. In the mean-

while, stocks were simply sufficient for any

immediate needs.

With respect to the quality of the first

class of guns, the Minister has been

careful to see that the best quality of

steel was used, and that the guns were

carefully tested before being accepted.

It is a matter of fact that the French

navy has been able to keep its strength

up to the mark, and that it is now in a

position to meet any emergency with

confidence.

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ROYAL

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THE MERRY WIDOW

For the first time in Hongkong.

ROBT. PORTER & Co.'s
CELEBRATED
BULL DOG
Guinness Stout
IN PINTS AND SPLITS.
BULL DOG
Light Ale
IN PINTS & SPLITS.

SOLE AGENTS:

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS.

NEW
PIANOS
ON HIRE

AT

\$10 PER MONTH

Tuning and Regular
Attention Inclusive.

S. MOUTRIE & Co.
LIMITED.

H. K. HONGKONG, April 16, 1907

Powell's

CHILDREN'S & BABIES'

DEPARTMENT.

Special Display

OF

NEW SPRING GOODS

EVERYTHING FOR

LITTLE BOYS,

LITTLE GIRLS

and BABIES

Charming Hats

for

Boys & Girls.

Moderate Prices.

Wm. Powell, Ltd.

March 2 witnessed the closing of the stoneyard at Brentford Workhouse, the guardians regarding it as a demoralizing and degrading institution. It cost 15s 8d to produce a ton of broken stone, but this only fetched 8s. 7d. on sale.

Professor Sayce, in a Tokyo audience the other day that a book written in the 6th dynasty of Egypt speaks of a competitive examination through which Egyptian candidates obtained Government positions. As early as 1400 B.C., the people of Egypt enjoyed not only historical novels, but works describing foreign countries. There remains a book written 1,300 B.C., which was written in a satirical vein of the embassies and misadventures of a traveller in Palestine. Another book tells how badly a traveller was served in a Babylonian hotel and how he evaded Arab highwaymen. The author also tells us that his carriage collapsed on a bad road in Babylon, at a place where no blacksmith shop could be found.

for to each of the officers there is no one of real ability yet appointed. They are like an embryo in whom the form and bones have as yet not taken shape or gathered strength. The Government is without life. Truly at the present time it is as if one were hanging up a very heavy weight by a single hair. Whether we as a nation shall exist or be overthrown is most uncertain, and if we strictly follow the evidence before us, there is fear that we may yet lose all. Events during the last ten days have been worse than they were before. Do we dare again to make these mistakes? If so then before our eyes we shall see ruin falling upon us and that right swiftly. I will therefore venture to explain before the several gentlemen concerned even with strong weeping.

From the day when the armies of the south and east rose in a righteous cause, business everywhere has been injured and impeded, and the loss has been incalculable; foreigners have suffered greatly. Fortunately there has not yet been any excuse for them to practically interfere, there being no excuse that they could seize upon, but their hearts have been full of anger. Now, in Peking, there has been a sudden outbreak so that the waves of destruction have reached even to Tientsin, and that city has been changed into an empty market. But the result of this is that one foreign nation has landed troops and another has followed suit, until the land has been converted into a military camp. They have set up their own picquets and guards, for the sake of preserving liberty, and no one amongst us dares to ask any one of them why they do this. Ostensibly they profess to be protecting their commercial interests; secretly, they are bent upon the destruction of our country. The masses of military are greater than afloat (when Peking was in the hand of the Boxers). Peking looks like a fortified camp to those who cast their eyes northwards. This aspect of foreign influence and foreign intercourse makes one lift up one's voice and weep.

Then there are the mutual quarrels and recriminations between the north and the south. They have continued from the autumn into the winter. There is a sudden enlistment of soldiers, who are led forth to fight, but have no knowledge of military regulations, and even regard defeat as a merit. They regard disturbances as good government. They think self-satisfied clamour is peace. They use their abilities for the formation of guilds and parties, and then they devote their strength to the protection of their own party and their own belongings. When the higher move, the lower follow. The latter prostrate themselves and the former exalt their heads. Rewards and punishments are confused. Edicts and commands are not issued. Provinces are spontaneously becoming frontier states, and the Army regards itself as the central family. The wildest rumours are being published, as if by a whirlwind, and those who hear at once respond: "At first there is but a spark of fire, then it is seen to be a regular blaze. The bean is split open, and the gourd is divided, and not any one layeth these bad things to heart."

"Besides this there are hidden on the banks of the Long River, thick as reeds, those who oppose the new Government, who would conquer the country as crowds of winged locusts, and who would revert to the old flag. If there be the smallest failure on our part, they would move and carry out their plans. Rebellions would again break out, and there would be quarrellings in secret. When I contemplate our relationship towards the military Government again I weep with many tears and with a loud wail."

When every allowance is made for the Chinese epistolary style it must be acknowledged that the above telegram discloses a really serious state of affairs. We would be the last to suggest that the statement of Ching who are trying to compose the situation and restore something like order to the disrupted Empire and to erect thereon a brand new Republic should

be hurried in their work. Hasty resolutions are always to be discounted. But, as Li YUAN-HUNG plithily remarks, time is flying swiftly, and the country looks in vain for the declaration of a firm line of policy. YUAN SHIH-KAI seems more inclined to wait upon public opinion, than to lead it, and the result is seen in the serious unrest spreading throughout the land. Everywhere we hear of the old time bandits resuming their former occupation with renewed vigour, and nowhere does a strong man appear on the side of settled Government who is willing to take effective measures towards restoring tranquillity. It looks as if we are in for a prolonged period of unquiet times in China.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

There is talk of building a new bridge over the Hooghly, on somewhat similar lines to the Tower Bridge, London.

A safe weighing 4 cwt. and containing £480 has been carried off from the Nioo Casino by burglars, who had hidden overnight in the theatre.

The cost of rice is rising so steadily in Japan and causing so much distress that it is proposed to take the duty off imported foreign grain.

Japan would like to start an experimental tea-growing farm, but the tightness of her finances, forces her to drop the project for a time.

A quantity of bags, left over from the University Bazaar, will be sold by auction to-morrow at Mr. Geo. Lamont's sales rooms. Vide advertisement on back page.

"You must have plenty to do now," the chairman of the Tottenham Bench remarked to a witness who described himself as a "Post Office telephone fault finder."

Leave has been given by the House of Lords to Colonel Alexander Henry Leith to lodge a printed case in support of a claim to the baronies of Burgh, Strathgib, and Cobham.

A fire broke out at No. 22 Calne Road yesterday, but was extinguished before much damage was done. The cause of it is attributed to the upsetting of a kerosene oil lamp.

Exemptions from vaccination in England and Wales have risen from 162,799 in 1908 to 230,347 in 1910. For the first half of 1911 they were at the rate of 238,370 per year.

From Monday April 1st the last section of the Farringham branch line of the Kentish-Canton Railway (British Section), between Shih Chung An and Sha Tau Kok will be opened for traffic.

In Portuguese Guinea the Balanta natives attacked and pillaged the European settlements. A number of men, women, and children were carried off, and four soldiers who were killed were eaten by the natives.

It is announced that the committee of the Royal Aero Club has decided to accept the flight of 4 hours 32min. accomplished by Lieutenant B. H. Barrington-Kennett on February 14th as a British record for duration with a passenger.

The Kapagawa Maru, Capt. Butler, has left Japan for Brazil with fourteen hundred Japanese emigrants on board. She makes, by two stops on the long voyage, viz. at Singapore and Durban. A scene of indescribable enthusiasm marked her departure from Kobe, no less than three times hands playing on board.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL.

Mr. G. N. Lewis, of the Empire Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, is the newly appointed Secretary and Manager of the Singapore Club and will commence his duties at the beginning of next month.

Mr. R. A. Moor, H.B.M.'s Vice Consul at Singapore, has been seriously ill with fever and dysentery. The latest news received in Bankok is to the effect that Mr. Moor is on the way to recovery.

A bronze statue of the late Prince Komatsu, who at the time of his death was President of the Japan Red Cross Society, has just been unveiled on the former site of the old Kwan-yin-bell, in front of the Toshogu shrine, Utsunomiya Park, Tokyo.

The Hongkong A.O.D. have expressed their appreciation of the services rendered by Mr. John Robertson in stage-managing and producing "The Gondoliers," by presenting him with a "combination clock, barometer, thermometer and compass, Major Hunter, A.O.D., made the presentation.

A San Francisco telegram received on Thursday announced the death in California of Mr. C. L. Gohman, for over thirty years a resident of Hongkong. For many years he had been clerk of the Pacific Mail Company. He had lately moved to the Disinfecting Company, which has its office in Pedder's street. A shy, retiring man, his death will be mourned by many in this Colony.

SOLDIERS' LIABILITY FOR DEBT.

An Important Decision.

Mr Justice Gompertz, in delivering judgment this morning in the case in which Dr. Kew Brothers, dentists, sued Sgt. Wreford for £38 for services rendered, gave an important ruling on the question of a soldier's liability for debt amounting to less than £50. Mr P. W. Goldring represented plaintiff.

His Lordship, in giving judgment, said:—This is a claim against a Sergeant in the Royal Engineers for a debt due in respect of dental services rendered to him by the plaintiff who are Dental Surgeons. The question is whether defendant actually agreed to pay to the plaintiff the amount, be it what it might, by which their account to him should be in excess of the sum allowed by the War Office. On inquiring into the facts I have come to the conclusion after some slight hesitation that the money claimed is actually due on a contract between the defendant and the plaintiff. But the question then arises whether this amount can be recovered, having regard to the provisions of section 144 of the Army Act with respect to debts under £50. The defendant has formally claimed the protection of the section. The matter is not free from difficulty. First of all comes the question whether this section of the act is in force in the Colony of Hongkong. The defendant is of course a person subject to military law and therefore, by virtue of section 2(2) the Army Act applies generally to him. Again he is a soldier of the regular forces and therefore comes within the special provisions of section 144. But this is not enough, for there is a further question—whether the section is also binding on the plaintiff, who are civilians. In the United Kingdom the Act of course has a general force and effect and the section binds anyone who has dealings with a soldier. In a Colony the matter is not so simple for it is frequently not easy to decide whether an Act or part of an Act is meant to apply to the King's subjects abroad. There is in the Statute no such express extension of its provisions to the British Colonies as is found e.g. in the Merchant Shipping Act—nor does there appear any such clear intention that the Act shall have a general force outside the United Kingdom as can be found in e.g. the Regimental Debts Act.

The rule of course is that Parliament while possessing undoubted authority to legislate for any part of the dominions of the Crown, will not however be presumed by the Courts to have intended to enact law to take effect outside the United Kingdom unless such intention is clearly to be gathered from the enactment itself. If the section is really in force here it will of course apply to persons not soldiers and not even subject to military law—that is, to any person who may chance to give credit to a soldier of the regular forces, and the effect will be to deprive that person of his remedy in the usual course of law. This does not of course mean that he is without remedy—only that he must avail himself of the limited one provided by the Act—and that he must follow the procedure there given. Shortly stated the effect of the section is that a soldier of the regular forces cannot be taken out of his Majesty's service by any process of any court of law or be compelled to appear in person before any court on account of any claim for a civil debt where the amount of the claim does not exceed £50, but there is a provision that a person having a cause of action may, notwithstanding anything in the section, after due notice in writing, proceed to judgment. He can then have execution other than judgment other than against the person, by any means other than by legal process, and he can have execution of such order. So that in effect the section binds a creditor in two ways, first of all he must give a proper notice, and then after judgment his remedy by execution is limited as provided by the Act. There is perhaps the remedy by execution, but it is only in the case of a judgment creditor, and it is only in the case of a judgment creditor that notice must be given. The notice should, I suppose, be to the effect that the soldier is not bound to appear in person and that if judgment goes against him the creditor has only limited power of execution. It was considered in early times to be an extremely important remedy, and it was accordingly with public policy for a variety of reasons that neither the person, pay, or military appointments of a soldier should be liable to be taken in execution for petty debts.

I learned another writer on the subject as follows:—The effect of the section for debt involved different considerations. In the first place, where concepts had been impressed or flogged, or otherwise (that of perpetual imprisonment), had entered the Army. It was important to society to keep them there. On the other hand, men, as now, might enlist into the Service with no other object in time of peace than to escape the legal consequences of pecuniary embarrassment, and the enlistment, with unalloyed feelings, might be fraudulently urged against the honest claims of creditors. The action of Parliament was directed to these ends: to prevent the soldier first from being trusted, by ordering his officer to cry down his financial credit in each town which the regiment entered, and afterwards from being taken out of the Army, by those who had wrongfully trusted him, to the injury of the Public Service. Thus the 3rd Act of George 1st, 1715, declared that no "volunteers" also be taken out of the Army by any process other than for criminal matters; and the act of 1717 authorized any Justice to discharge such prisoners from arrest, without the payment of any fee. As applied to volunteers only, society was safe from the release of convicts or of imprisoned debtors, but it placed every soldier out of the reach of the law in regard to making any pecuniary compensation for torts committed by him for any legal obligations contracted by him. The Lord made this "provision" a subject of "praise," and Parliament endeavored to make the difficulty in both aspects, first by enabling just debts to be recovered, and then by preventing the soldier from being withdrawn from the Army by an arrest fraudulently arranged with a conniving creditor.

tot. The Act of 1717 accordingly provided that the debt or damages should amount to £10 at the least, and be proved on oath. "The defendant then of course might make any marital law," page 56. It is often very difficult to decide a question of the construction of an Act in the absence of authority, and without hearing the point argued. I have not found it easy to make up my mind, but on the whole I am inclined to find, having regard to the scope and policy of the Act, that this section was intended to apply in the Colony. The section itself is stated to be binding on the soldier. It binds the soldier, then, to be dealt with him. I may be of course wrong in my view, and it is of course possible that should a similar case arise again, I may find it necessary on hearing arguments, and on a fuller consideration, to change my opinion. For the present I will only say that to the best of my judgment, the section is in force in this Colony. The plaintiff has not, I think, given the notice required by the provision, and he cannot therefore have judgment. I do not, however, think the writ is bad. If his solicitor desires it, I am willing to adjourn the hearing. If in the meantime the defendant is duly served, the plaintiff is at liberty to come here and prove his case, and get his judgment for what it may be worth.

His Lordship, addressing Mr. Goldring, added:—You have issued the writ, but you cannot get judgment or go on until you have given defendant notice. Mr. Goldring—In his own evidence he admits having received notice. His Lordship—But you have to give him notice of the Act. You have to say "I am suing you but as the provisions of the Act apply you are not compelled to appear in person, and no process can be had against you personally or against your arms, accoutrements or your military pay." When you have done that you can prove your case, and, if you can, you can get judgment for what it may be worth. I don't know whether it will be worth anything at all. I think probably not.

Mr. Goldring—Very well, my Lord. This is really in the nature of a test case. The case was then adjourned sine die.

SPORTING.

Billiards.

The concluding games of the tournament between the R.A. Staff and the Hongkong Volunteers in the Soldiers Club billiard tournament were played on Thursday evening, two very interesting and even contests being witnessed by a good number of spectators. The Volunteers qualified for the next round by beating the R.A. Staff by 278 points.

Captain Lamont and Master Gunner Bull were the first pair. The latter won the game by 34 points, making breaks of 10, 18, 13, 17 (twice) and 12. Captain Lamont making 17, 11, 14 and 13.

The second game was between Regimental Sergeant Major Cutler R.A., and Corporal Bullock, H.K. Vol. It was won from the commencement they were curiously of no mean ability, both putting up a first class game. Sergeant Major Cutler won by 29, his highest breaks being 14, 30, 23, 17 (twice) and 20, his opponent compiling 13, 15, 28, 11 and 15. Full scores!

R. A. STAFF. H. K. VOLUNTEERS.
Master G. Muir 280 Pte. Hamilton 3
Major Kirke 158 Mr. Barlow 250
C.S. 32 C.G.

Gillman 124 Rodgers 250
Captain Brierley 211 Pte. Bishop 250
Mas. Gr. Brown 250 Pte. Phillips 235
Captain Guthrie 250 Mr. McLennan 250
Master G. Fuller 240 Capt. Lamont 251
H.S.H. Currier 250 Corpl. Bullock 251

Cricket.

HONGKONG CHALLENGE CUP.
The following will represent the H.K.C.C. in a match to-morrow versus the Champions of the League (Cricket Association C.C.) to play at the Club Ground at 2.15 p.m. on Saturday. R. E. O. Bird (Capt.), D. E. Donnelly, A. R. Sutherland, Lt. Annsheim, R.N., J. F. Fisher, R.N., R. F. Long, R.M. Austin, W. C. D. Turner, A. E. Fowler, A. N. Joseland and W. E. Warburton.
The following will represent Cricketers:—R. E. Taylor, R. A. Carrivick, G. A. Hancock, L. A. Rose, J. V. Bragg, E. L. Bragg, W. N. Vivesh, R. Pesterly, J. D. Norris, C. Johnston and R. Bass.

Hongkong Cricket League.

The following is the League table up to date:

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Pts.
Cricket Association	14	9	5	3	30
Civil Service	14	8	6	0	24
Kowloon	14	5	9	0	15
R.G.A.	12	5	2	5	20
Hongkong Police	11	4	7	0	13
R.E.V.	10	3	7	0	11
R.O.V.	10	2	8	0	9
Naval Yard	12	3	9	0	9

N.B.—A win=3 points. A draw=1 point.

South China Rifle Association.

Owing to the inclemency of the weather on the 28th instant it is regretted the presentation of prizes in connection with the above Meeting had to be postponed. Major General O. A. Anderson, C.B., has now kindly consented to present them on 12 noon, on Saturday next at the Volunteer Drill Hall.

Ladies Rifle Association.

We have been kindly favoured with a programme of the L. R. A.'s Annual Meeting to be held on 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th prox. We have been asked to state that no member may receive more than two prizes, exclusive of Challenge Cups and Affinity Competitions.

The programme is as follows:—

- 1st, 50 Yards Scratch Competition, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Prizes presented.
- 2nd, 50 Yards Handicap Competition, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Prizes presented.
- 3rd, 75 Yards Scratch Competition, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Prizes presented.
- 4th, 75 Yards Handicap Competition, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Prizes presented.
- 5th, The Two-Minute Competition, 20 Yards Scratch, 1st, 2nd, 3rd Prizes presented.
- 6th, Highest Scratch Aggregate Competition, 1st and 2nd Prizes presented.
- 7th, 50 Yards Handicap Competition, For the Jockey Club Challenge Cup, To be won by the highest aggregate score in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 150th, 151st, 152nd, 153rd, 154th, 155th, 156th, 157th, 158th, 159th, 160th, 161st, 162nd, 163rd, 164th, 165th, 166th, 167th, 168th, 169th, 170th, 171st, 172nd, 173rd, 174th, 175th, 176th, 177th, 178th, 179th, 180th, 181st, 182nd, 183rd, 184th, 185th, 186th, 187th, 188th, 189th, 190th, 191st, 192nd, 193rd, 194th, 195th, 196th, 197th, 198th, 199th, 200th, 201st, 202nd, 203rd, 204th, 205th, 206th, 207th, 208th, 209th, 210th, 211st, 212th, 213th, 214th, 215th, 216th, 217th, 218th, 219th, 220th, 221st, 222nd, 223rd, 224th, 225th, 226th, 227th, 228th, 229th, 230th, 231st, 232nd, 233rd, 234th, 235th, 236th, 237th, 238th, 239th, 240th, 241st, 242nd, 243rd, 244th, 245th, 246th, 247th, 248th, 249th, 250th, 251st, 252nd, 253rd, 254th, 255th, 256th, 257th, 258th, 259th, 260th, 261st, 262nd, 263rd, 264th, 265th, 266th, 267th, 268th, 269th, 270th, 271st, 272nd, 273rd, 274th, 275th, 276th, 277th, 278th, 279th, 280th, 281st, 282nd, 283rd, 284th, 285th, 286th, 287th, 288th, 289th, 290th, 291st, 292nd, 293rd, 294th, 295th, 296th, 297th, 298th, 299th, 300th, 301st, 302nd, 303rd, 304th, 305th, 306th, 307th, 308th, 309th, 310th, 311st, 312th, 313th, 314th, 315th, 316th, 317th, 318th, 319th, 320th, 321st, 322nd, 323rd, 324th, 325th, 326th, 327th, 328th, 329th, 330th, 331st, 332nd, 333rd, 334th, 335th, 336th, 337th, 338th, 339th, 340th, 341st, 342nd, 343rd, 344th, 345th, 346th, 347th, 348th, 349th, 350th, 351st, 352nd, 353rd, 354th, 355th, 356th, 357th, 358th, 359th, 360th, 361st, 362nd, 363rd, 364th, 365th, 366th, 367th, 368th, 369th, 370th, 371st, 372nd, 373rd, 374th, 375th, 376th, 377th, 378th, 379th, 380th, 381st, 382nd, 383rd, 384th, 385th, 386th, 387th, 388th, 389th, 390th, 391st, 392nd, 393rd, 394th, 395th, 396th, 397th, 398th, 399th, 400th, 401st, 402nd, 403rd, 404th, 405th, 406th, 407th, 408th, 409th, 410th, 411st, 412th, 413th, 414th, 415th, 416th, 417th, 418th, 419th, 420th, 421st, 422nd, 423rd, 424th, 425th, 426th, 427th, 428th, 429th, 430th, 431st, 432nd, 433rd, 434th, 435th, 436th, 437th, 438th, 439th, 440th, 441st, 442nd, 443rd, 444th, 445th, 446th, 447th, 448th, 449th, 450th, 451st, 452nd, 453rd, 454th, 455th, 456th, 457th, 458th, 459th, 460th, 461st, 462nd, 463rd, 464th, 465th, 466th, 467th, 468th, 469th, 470th, 471st, 472nd, 473rd, 474th, 475th, 476th, 477th, 478th, 479th, 480th, 481st, 482nd, 483rd, 484th, 485th, 486th, 487th, 488th, 489th, 490th, 491st, 492nd, 493rd, 494th, 495th, 496th, 497th, 498th, 499th, 500th, 501st, 502nd, 503rd, 504th, 505th, 506th, 507th, 508th, 509th, 510th, 511st, 512th, 513th, 514th, 515th, 516th, 517th, 518th, 519th, 520th, 521st, 522nd, 523rd, 524th, 525th, 526th, 527th, 528th, 529th, 530th, 531st, 532nd, 533rd, 534th, 535th, 536th, 537th, 538th, 539th, 540th, 541st, 542nd, 543rd, 544th, 545th, 546th, 547th, 548th, 549th, 550th, 551st, 552nd, 553rd, 554th, 555th, 556th, 557th, 558th, 559th, 560th, 561st, 562nd, 563rd, 564th, 565th, 566th, 567th, 568th, 569th, 570th, 571st, 572nd, 573rd, 574th, 575th, 576th, 577th, 578th, 579th, 580th, 581st, 582nd, 583rd, 584th, 585th, 586th, 587th, 588th, 589th, 590th, 591st, 592nd, 593rd, 594th, 595th, 596th, 597th, 598th, 599th, 600th, 601st, 602nd, 603rd, 604th, 605th, 606th, 607th, 608th, 609th, 610th, 611st, 612th, 613th, 614th, 615th, 616th, 617th, 618th, 619th, 620th, 621st, 622nd, 623rd, 624th, 625th, 626th, 627th, 628th, 629th, 630th, 631st, 632nd, 633rd, 634th, 635th, 636th, 637th, 638th, 639th, 640th, 641st, 642nd, 643rd, 644th, 645th, 646th, 647th, 648th, 649th, 650th, 651st, 652nd, 653rd, 654th, 655th, 656th, 657th, 658th, 659th, 660th, 661st, 662nd, 663rd, 664th, 665th, 666th, 667th, 668th, 669th, 670th, 671st, 672nd, 673rd, 674th, 675th, 676th, 677th, 678th, 679th, 680th, 681st, 682nd, 683rd, 684th, 685th, 686th, 687th, 688th, 689th, 690th, 691st, 692nd, 693rd, 694th

BY TELEGRAPH.

THE COAL STRIKE.

RIOTING BEGINS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, March 22.

Strike riots against the miners who have started work have broken out in the Midlands. Soldiers have been sent to quell the disturbances. It is stated that 10,000 troops at Aldershot are in readiness to proceed to the coalfields.

Five hundred West Yorkshire have gone from Lichfield to Littleton Colliery at Huntingdon, Staffordshire, where, in spite of the appeals of their own agent, several thousand strikers throw missiles into the pit to prevent the re-ascending of men who had been sent down to effect repairs. They set two rods on fire, throw tubs into the road, and did much other damage. The police made baton charges but were powerless to deal with the strikers.

The 3rd Suffolk Regiment at Aldershot have been ordered to proceed to Shrewsbury, the 4th Royal Fusiliers to Fichfield, and a detachment of the Warwickshire and Shropshire Regiments have gone to Chirk, where intimidation has greatly lessened the number of workers.

RESUMPTION PROSPECTS.

It is expected that the ballot of the miners will decide in favour of resuming work.

Mr Asquith's speech to-day to the parliamentary representatives of mining constituencies was in the nature of a manifesto, hoping that they would give a lead to the miners' decision.

LABOURITES DISAGREE.

The Times states that a serious split has taken place between the Trade Unionists and the Socialists in the Labour Party. The former, who are mostly miners' representatives, were responsible for the decision of the party to oppose the third reading. Mr Ramsey MacDonald and the Socialists favour abstention. This may lead to a definite schism.

FURTHER RAILWAY REDUCTIONS.

The railways will suspend their goods traffic from 3rd April to the 9th with the exception of food trains. Two lines have cancelled the Easter excursions.

STARVATION.

A number of deaths from starvation has occurred in the Potteries.

A CONSIDERATE EARL.

The Earl of Brownlow is cutting the trees on his estate at Grantham and distributing the timber to the poor.

THE COAL BILL.

The House of Lords has read the coal Bill a second time, and postponed the subsequent stages until to-day to enable the Government to alter the wording of a technical amendment.

The ballot of the men lessens the urgency of the Bill.

APPEAL TO STRIKERS.

The leaders of the Labour party have issued an appeal to the strikers to refrain from disorder where the men are resuming work, otherwise they will alienate public sympathy and strengthen the opposing interests.

EARLY RESUMPTION LIKELY.

Reports coming in from the districts indicate that the men will vote for an early resumption of work.

MILITARY READY.

Four thousand troops are in readiness at Aldershot to leave at a moment's notice, trains awaiting them at the sidings.

Ten thousand troops can be rapidly placed in the coalfields.

BILL PASSES THE LORDS.

LONDON, March 29.

The House of Lords has passed the remaining stages of the coal bill.

MR ASQUITH ON THE SITUATION.

LONDON, March 29.

Mr Asquith, addressing the House of Commons, dwelt on the wisdom of parliament in interfering with the discretion of the Joint Boards by not imposing specific figures. He emphasised the point that the refusal to insert figures in the Coal Mines Act must be taken to express no opinion by Parliament on the reasonableness or otherwise of the figures put forward. He pointed out that the movement so far as the large majority of the miners was concerned was a winter strike of one, but the interests of the community were daily and increasingly more strangled. The country had shown unexpected wealth of resources in meeting an unexpected crisis.

BY TELEGRAPH.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

OBJECTION TO THE RECENT LOAN.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, March 29.

The Times correspondent at St. Petersburg says that Russia favours the Belgian loan, but objects to the four-nations loan to China on the ground that financial aid to the young Republic must not involve an increase of the military burdens of the Powers whose dominions are co-terminous with China. It is held in St. Petersburg that whatever syndicate may conclude a loan those Powers must have a controlling if not exclusive voice in the transaction, which is easily attainable by joint agreements. The arguments will be communicated to London and Paris after the conclusion of the present exchange of views.

FRANCO-SPANISH RELATIONS.

NEGOTIATIONS AT A STANDSTILL.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, March 29.

The Franco-Spanish negotiations with regard to Morocco have made no progress whatever.

THE AUSTRALIAN TYPHOON.

OVER 70 LIVES LOST.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, March 28.

Reuter's correspondent at Perth telegraphs that 32 white and 40 coloured people perished in the typhoon of the 25th inst.

FEARS FOR STEAMER.

Reuter's agent at Perth wires that the steamer Koolbars has not yet been heard of. She carried 43 passengers and 77 crew.

THE TRIPOLI WAR.

FRESH NAVAL MOVE BY ITALY.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, March 28.

Reuter's agent at St. Petersburg says that a telegram from Russian sources in Rome foreshadows immediate action by the Italian fleet on the European and Asiatic shores of Turkey.

THE TURF.

RESULT OF LIVERPOOL CUP.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, March 28.

The Liverpool Spring Cup, run to-day, resulted as follows:

Subterranean (Huxley) 1

Protestant Boy (Foy) 2

Adam Bede (Stokes) 3

There were nineteen starters, and Subterranean won by a length and a half, while a length separated second and third.

Helot did not compete, but came out under the starter's orders. Royal Hurdle 11 was ridden by Jelliss and Bryony by Robbins.

The betting on the winner was 11 to 2 agst. 100 to 7 agst. Protestant Boy and 100 to 7 agst. Adam Bede.

THE GRAND NATIONAL.

The probable starters for the Grand National are: Jerry M. (Piggott), Rathnally (Chadwick), Jenkinstown (Payne), Rory O'Moore (Mason), Canbreen (Nervey), Bloodstone (F. Lyle), Mount Prospect's Fortune (Kelly), Glenside (Usher), Carsey (Dinke), Bally Hackle (J. Morgan), Kilkeel (Trudgill), Fella's Pride (G. Lyle), Sir Halbert (Smith), Regent (T. Morgan), Bridge Fourth (Foley), Covert Coat (Walsh), Axle Pin (Anthony), White Leg 11 (Farrell), Great Cross (Lawn), Preceptor 11 (A. Aylin), Foolhardy (owner), Gold Seal 11 (Tinn), Glenside (Foran), Sans Pous (Kay).

The betting is as follows:—3 to 1 agst. Rathnally (offered) after 100 to 30 (taken). 5 to 1 agst. Jerry M., 10 to 1 agst. Rory O'Moore, 100 to 5 agst. Canbreen, 100 to 8 agst. Carsey, 100 to 7 agst. Jenkinstown, 100 to 6 agst. Covert Coat.

BY TELEGRAPH.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

RIOTS IN SOOCHOW.

(Wah Tsz Yat Po's Service.)

SHANGHAI, March 28.

Two battalions of Nanking troops arriving at Soochow came in conflict with soldiers stationed there. A fight ensued and several shops were burned. Scores of people were robbed. The railway was suspended on the 27th, but resumed work on the next day.

THE NANKING ASSEMBLY.

After the resignation of Sun Yat-sen, Tang Shao-yi took the chair and asked all officers and secretaries to remain at their posts and co-operate with him in every respect.

WOMEN DENIED INTERVIEW.

Women suffragettes have several times called on Tang Shao-yi but he has refused to grant them an audience.

THE CABINET NOMINEES.

Tang Shao-yi in the course of a speech to the Consultative Chamber to-day requested that no alteration be made in the list of Ministers which he has submitted.

SUN YAT-SEN.

Sun Yat-sen intends to visit Hupoh before coming to Canton.

CONSTITUTION MAKING.

The members of the provincial assemblies of seven Northern provinces have arrived at Tientsin to deal with the supreme power of the President and the regulations for appointing governor-generals.

JAPANESE POLICE PATROL.

The officials and commercial community in Tientsin have jointly decided that the Japanese police patrol in the native city is equivalent to a loss of sovereignty and steps will be taken to request its withdrawal.

CANTON'S FORMER VICEEROY.

Tang Shao-yi has suggested that Hsin Chan Hsun, former viceroy of Canton, should be appointed chief of the Forestry Department.

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

PREMIER VERSUS FOREIGN SECRETARY.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, March 28.

There was a poignant scene in the House of Commons during the discussion of a private member's women's franchise bill, called the Conciliation Bill.

Mr Asquith, in his individual capacity, is strongly opposing the measure while Sir Edward Grey is replying to the Premier's arguments with equal vigour.

PRESIDENT TAFT'S VETO.

WOOL BILL RE-INTRODUCED.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, March 28.

A message from Reuter's agent at Washington states that the Democrats have re-introduced the Wool Revision Bill which was vetoed by President Taft in 1911. This makes legislation on the wool duties impossible before the elections.

THE SYNDICALIST PROSECUTION.

TOM MANN BAILED OUT.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, March 28.

Tom Mann has been remanded and bail allowed, the Magistrate obtaining from him a written guarantee that he will not repeat statements inciting soldiers to mutiny when ordered to fire on strikers.

NEW ZEALAND'S PREMIER.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, March 28.

Reuter's agent at Wellington states that Sir Joseph Ward has resigned the Premiership and Mr Mackenzie has assumed the position.

THE KAISER.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, March 28.

His Majesty the Kaiser has arrived at Carls.

BY TELEGRAPH.

THE FRENCH MOTOR "SCARE."

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, March 28.

Reuter's correspondent in Paris states that a reward of £4,000 is offered for the discovery of the motor bandits who carried through the Chantilly-bank robbery.

Detectives in automobiles have been armed with big game repeating rifles intended to perforate the tyres of fleeing cars.

The police force of Paris is to be increased by 1,800.

WALFISCH BAY.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, March 28.

During question time in the House of Commons, Sir Edna and Grey said he was unaware of any grounds for contemplating the session of Walfisch Bay.

AID FOR PERSIA.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

LONDON, March 28.

A message from Teheran states that in view of the satisfactory reply to the Note containing a joint declaration of policy, Britain and Russia have each advanced Persia £100,000.

VOLUNTEER NOTES.

MURKIN IN THE KING'S BARRACKS.

Saturday 30th.—Part I for Recruits and Trained men, 2 to 4 p.m. Standard T. at 4 p.m. for Recruits and Trained men, 4 to 6 p.m.

Sunday 31st.—Part II 9.30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Standard Test Recruits and Trained men, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

TRANSFERS.

The following members are transferred from No. 2 Coy. to the Howitzer Section of the Artillery with effect from the 1st April:—Bomb. Elphinstone, Gunners McNulty and Holland.

LEAVE.

Gunner W. Marshall in granted leave of absence for 12 months with effect from the 1st April.

COMPETITIONS.

The following Competitions will take place during April: Lugard Cup, Blake Shield, Corps Championship and Gascoigne Shield.

O. C. Companies desirous of entering sections for the Maxim Gun competition will make their own arrangements as regards drills, etc.

RECEAINT'S MEAS.

The Annual dinner will be held at Headquarters on Saturday, the 13th April. Members, principally for the Yunnan market, at prices \$3 below our present quotations.

As disturbances are still of daily occurrence in the neighbouring provinces, the outlook for the immediate future is far from being bright.

Local Stock 26,000 bales. Sold but not delivered in the Godown and to arrive 21,000 bales.

Arrivals.—The mail steamer Delta and extra steamer Tosa Maru from Bombay, and Nanning from Calcutta have brought in 6,121 bales for Hongkong and 11,243 bales for Shanghai. Shipments from Hongkong to coast ports, &c., amount to about 1,500 bales.

Local Mill.—No business to report.

Shanghai.—No change.

Japanese Yarn.—A blank fortnight again.

Raw Cotton, Bengal.—Nothing doing, no stock.

Chinese.—One parcel of 100 bales was booked at \$35 to \$35 per picul, being \$2 below previous quotations. Quotations, Bengal at \$29 to \$32 Chinese at \$31 to \$35.

ITEMS AT THE COURTS.

For the theft of 11 lbs. of copper from the Naval Yard, yesterday a man was this morning sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

A Chinaman has been arrested for stealing a pair of boots from the premises of Messrs. Whiteway, Laidlaw and Co. He was seen to enter the shop by a looking, pick up a pair of boots, and endeavour to make off with them. He was dealt with at the Magistracy this morning.

For stealing a quantity of clothing, value \$8, from the Military Hospital, Bowen Road, yesterday, a man, who was found to have returned from banishment, was dealt with at the Magistracy today.

Another man who recently returned to the Colony from banishment was convicted on a charge of snatching a coin from a person near the Clock Tower.

ANSWER TO THE QUESTION.

HOW to cure a cold is a question in which many are interested just now.

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The Body of His Desire, by Mrs Campbell.

The Principal Girl, by J. C. Smith.
Fire in Stubble, by the Baroness Orczy.
Jesse of Cariboo, by Roger Pocock.
Doddles, by B. P. Newman.

Across the Footlights, by Fergus Hume.
Maudie, by H. Rider Haggard.
A Glorious Lie, by Dorothea Garand.
The Battle, by Claude Farrere.

Mrs Wyckley's Wards, by L. A. Barker.
The Way of an Eagle, by E. M. Dell.
The Red Flower, by May Wynne.
Maid's Money, by Mrs Henry Dudeney.

When War is Over, by P. M. Pencock.
Carrow of Carrowdud, by L. C. Kenny.
Penny Money, by Mary and Jane Fendler.

Kuter Bridge, by Thomas Cobb.
Flower of Grass, by Kathryn Rhodes.
The Evolution of Sam, by Evelyn Everett-Green.

An Accidental Daughter, by Corno Hamilton.
Bernada, by R. M. Conolly.
Love's Old Sweet Song, by Clifton Bingham.

The Bell of Santiago, by G. B. Burgess.
The Pearl of Great Price, by A. C. Askew.
Lyster O' Malherang, by Eric Harrison.
The Fire Seeker, by Iota.

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